U.S. Department of Education ARCHIVED INFORMATION



Senior Education Official to Give Remarks on Importance of Mentoring at 100 Black Men of America Conference in Atlanta

Contact: Press Office, (202) 401-1576, press@ed.gov

Event Date 1: June 16, 2016 - 9:30am

James Cole Jr., general counsel, delegated the duties of deputy secretary, will give remarks on Thursday, June 16, at the 100 Black Men of America Inc. conference in Atlanta. He will discuss the President's My Brother's Keeper (MBK) Initiative to ensure that all young people, including boys and young men of color, can reach their full potential. Cole also will highlight the value of mentoring and its positive impact on educational outcomes for youths, particularly African-American males.

In addition, Cole will highlight My Brother's Keeper Success Mentors Initiative, which was launched earlier this year in response to the MBK Task Force's recommendation that federal agencies inaugurate a cross-sector national absenteeism initiative to improve the outcomes for young people, including those in underserved communities. The MBK Success Mentors Initiative aims to reduce chronic absenteeism by connecting more than 1 million students who are or at risk of becoming chronically absent with trained school-linked caring adults and near-peers over the next three to five years. The initiative is the nation's first-ever effort to scale an evidencebased, data-driven mentor model to reach and support the highest risk students. Thirty communities across the country—from cities such as Baltimore, Cleveland, Los Angeles and Flint, Michigan, to the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota—have joined the MBK Success Mentors Initiative as a means of helping their most at-risk students stay in school and improve their outcomes in education and in life.

The 100 Black Men of America, Inc. has long supported mentoring efforts in African-American communities. The organization strives to create environments where African-American children are motivated to achieve and adults are encouraged to become self-sufficient shareholders in the economic and social fabric of the communities in which they live.

Event 1

James Cole Jr., general counsel, delegated the duties of deputy secretary, U.S.

Who: Department of Education

Remarks at 100 Black Men of America Inc. conference What:

9:40 a.m. ET, Thursday, June 16, 2016 When:

Hyatt Regency Atlanta

265 Peachtree St., N.E. Where:

Atlanta, Georgia